

# COUNTY ISSUES

# Wayne County GIS

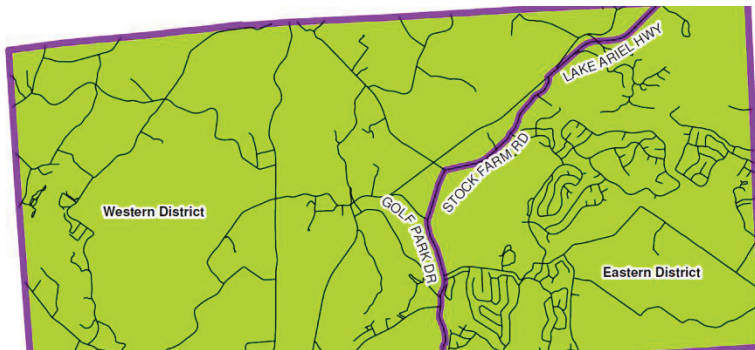
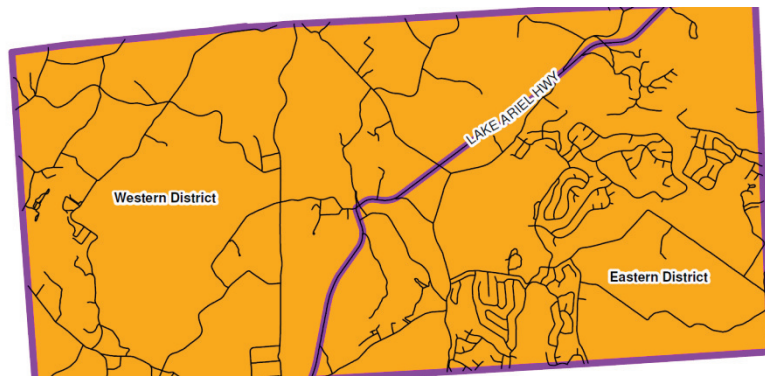
Each year, the GIS responsibilities of the Wayne County Planning/GIS Department grow. Most of the related work happens behind the scenes, involving daily data maintenance. These GIS tasks include setting addresses, updating building footprints, revising tax parcel lines and updating the County's 911 system. Additionally, these responsibilities include playing a support role to other Wayne County departments and offices that either use GIS directly or rely on GIS data for their day to day work and to solve geographic problems. Beyond that, the County's GIS serves the public through data requests, custom cartography, aerial mapping products and an interactive online mapping application.

The following are a few examples of County GIS projects that were completed in 2015.

## Lake Township Voting Districts

The Wayne County Planning/GIS Department worked with the Wayne County Bureau of Elections to look into and consider splitting Lake Township from one existing voting district into possibly two. Lake Township contains a large number of registered voters and the Planning/GIS Department mapped out three options showing potential ways in which the current, single voting district could be split into two.

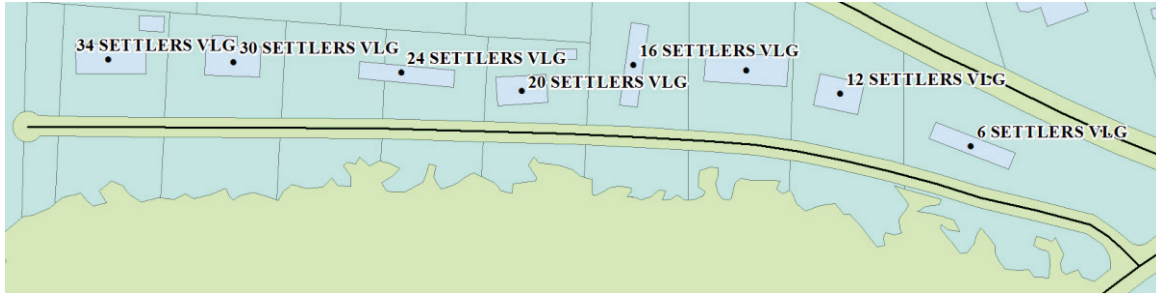
In the end, the decision was to keep Lake Township as a single voting district. The research and mapping provided a key component to fully understanding the problem before working towards a solution.



*Two of the theoretical voting district splits considered for Lake Township*

# Wayne County Re-Addressing/911 Projects

The Wayne County Department of Planning/GIS continued the process of maintaining and updating the address database that supports the County's 911 address system. This system plays an important part in providing correct data and the proper mapping information for timely response and emergency dispatch.



The above insert is a small area of Wayne County, located in Hawley, PA that underwent an address change in 2015. The Planning/GIS office was first contacted by the Hawley postmaster to verify and confirm the correct addresses on this private road known as Settlers Village. From there, the same procedure was followed that is used for all address concerns and corrections.

After current data was reviewed and the physical addresses were confirmed with the Hawley postmaster, we then determined the existing range of numbers were not matches in the County 911 system. In addition to the 911 concerns, this also created mail delivery issues for residents from the local postal service.

We then corresponded with the USPS Harrisburg, AMS (Address Management Services) and informed them of this issue. At that point, we worked together to provide information and assigned the proper addresses that would work with the County 911 system. We confirmed all addresses of old and new with both AMS of Harrisburg and the Hawley postmaster. Once the USPS system was updated to the correct information in their database and all addresses had been established and approved, we then began providing address verification letters to all the residents located on this street and the Hawley postmaster. The re-addressed area was completed in September 2015.

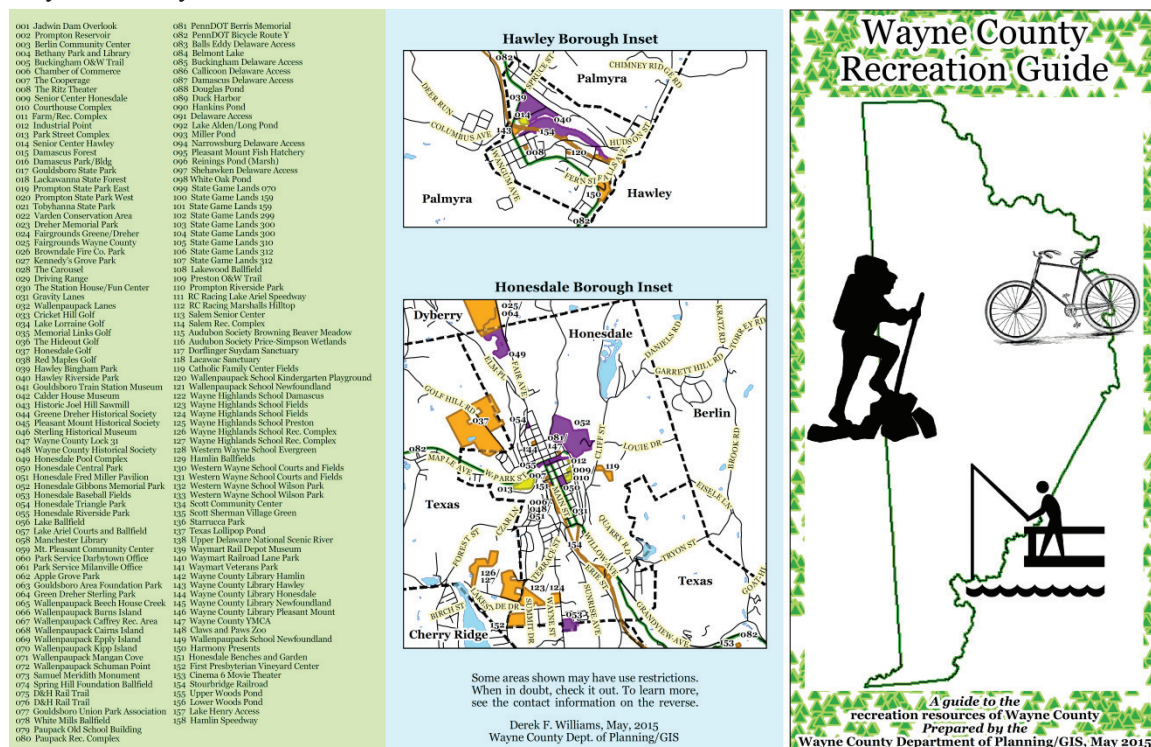
The Wayne County Department of Planning/GIS was also involved in a training webinar for a new technology upgrade. This training was very informative with many new procedures to follow for accessing and retrieving important telephone company data that our 911 system currently uses for dispatching purposes. These upgrades also allow us to correspond and communicate with the telephone company when any issues arise with the data we receive and to make the necessary corrections and/or changes to help assist with County emergency dispatch. The Planning/GIS Department can use these procedures to maintain data and to quickly respond to any discrepancies with the telephone company.

# 911 Computer Aided Dispatch Upgrades

The Wayne County 911 Department began upgrading their Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) software in 2015 and the Planning/GIS Department worked with their Department throughout this process, which should be completed by the end of 2016. GIS data plays an important role in a fully and properly functioning CAD. The Planning/GIS office met with the 911 staff and their CAD vender often to coordinate data sharing and workflow.

## Wayne County Recreation Inventory/Guide

In the spring of 2015, the Wayne County Planning/GIS Department completed a County Recreation Guide. This guide followed up on the completion of a recreational resource inventory, which identified the various recreational opportunities located throughout Wayne County.



The tri-fold guide (*back side shown*) geographically highlights publically accessible recreation areas and provides a listed directory. It is available for download from the Planning/GIS Department website and in hard copy at the Planning/GIS Department, the local chamber of commerce, tourism agencies, hotels, restaurants and other businesses throughout the Wayne County area.

Wayne County's recreation inventory is regularly updated and, while new information cannot be added to the currently printed recreation guide, it will be used for future guide updates. Going forward, another paper copy guide may be printed in addition to a potential interactive map.



# Wayne County Technology Committee

The Department of Planning/GIS continued working with the Wayne County Technology Committee in 2015. The focus this year was on understanding the feasibility of creating a high speed internet network in Wayne County. To advance this goal, Wayne County entered into contract with the consulting firm “Mission Critical Partners” during the end of 2015 to define this high speed internet structure and prepare the County to seek resources and implement strategies that will make affordable, high speed internet access a reality for both businesses and residents of Wayne County.

## Stourbridge Advisory Board

The Stourbridge Advisory Board took root in 2015 and exists to support the Stourbridge Project, a community business support center designed out of an old elementary school. The adaptive reuse project brought together a wide array of previously unavailable technology resources for public use. Many partnerships were forged to create this wide-reaching public project.

The lower floor of the Stourbridge Project (the former school’s gymnasium) offers a public co-working space where anyone can come to work and utilize the space’s resources (e.g. presently, the fastest free-to-use internet connection around, 3D printers, specialized software, coffee maker, free access to the space during “open co-working hours”, etc.) to pursue their projects and build upon the entrepreneurial culture of Wayne County. The upstairs of the Stourbridge Project offers space for incubator office tenants in a number of former classrooms and a media room equipped with a green screen, lights, and a number of other high-quality video production tools.

Future goals include increased usage of the co-working space, more incubator tenants and business education opportunities. Visit <http://stourbridgeproject.com/> for more information or stop by 646 West Park Street in Honesdale to see all that it has to offer.



*View of The Stourbridge Project co-working space. Credit: The Stourbridge Project*

## Leadership Northern Poconos

Leadership Northern Poconos promotes an understanding of the many facets of Wayne and Pike Counties to tomorrow's future leaders. This program sponsored by the Chamber of the Northern Poconos follows a 10-month schedule. Monthly topics include: leadership, local & county government, law enforcement, health care, community & human services, education, arts & culture, economic development, and environment – recreation – tourism.

County Planning Director, Craig Rickard, and Senior Planner/GIS Technical Analyst Derek Williams facilitated the November 2015 class of Local and County Government. The morning session provided an overview of the duties and responsibilities of the different components in county and local government with the goal of giving the participants a basic understanding of how they function. Topics covered the different types of municipalities in Pennsylvania including cities, boroughs and townships but with an emphasis on the municipalities in both Pike and Wayne County. A hands-on exercise identifying the boroughs and townships within the two Counties as well as surrounding PA and NY Counties was also completed. The class then went on a mobile tour of County facilities including the Main Courthouse, Park Street Complex, Recycling Center, and the Emergency Operations Center, which was of particular interest to the students.

A field trip was made to Paupack Township in the afternoon for a visit with the local Supervisors, which included a discussion and tour of their public works department to see the equipment utilized in Paupack Township. Their municipal recreational complex was also toured by the group at the end of the day to highlight the progress being made to provide recreational facilities to the residents and visitors of the lake region area. This first hand exposure to local government facilities added greatly to the program's content.



*Leadership Northern Poconos – Local and County Government – Morning Session*

## ***Wayne Tomorrow!***

*Wayne Tomorrow!* is an initiative formed by the Wayne County Commissioners working with the Wayne Economic Development Corporation (WEDCO) and other county organizations to look towards Wayne County's future and its quality of life.

This initiative is an outgrowth of the 2010 Wayne County Comprehensive Plan Update. It will build on information and recommendations found in the plan update. As Wayne County's growth and change evolves, it is important to have a broad process for a continual discussion that will nurture a collective understanding and consciousness for building stronger communities.

Starting in 2012, participants began meeting and sub-committees were formed under the following topics: Agriculture, Business and Economic Development, Marketing, Quality of Life, Sustainability, and Workforce Development.

Each sub-committee has been meeting and has been developing drafts pertaining to their individual subjects. Workgroups are implementing the action plan through priority projects, including broadband expansion, community hubs, a local food system, joint marketing and communication network, a business incubator project, and addressing sustainability issues. The business incubator project at the County's Park Street Complex was an accomplishment that became reality during the past year through the supported efforts of the County and WEDCO {see previous *Stourbridge Advisory Board* article}.

Craig Rickard, Christopher Barrett and Derek Williams of the Planning/GIS department, have been supporting the initiative by attending and discussing community topics at monthly meetings and performing GIS data compilation for the working group sub-committees.

During 2015, a draft "Strategic Plan" was developed based on each sub-committee's identified workgroup mission, goals and strategic action items needed to begin the process of accomplishing some of the overall initiative's goals. Some of the workgroup members view their roles as being catalysts to create coordinated action within the community and not necessarily as the ones to implement the initiative. This approach recognizes a heightened awareness to existing silo organizations and structures that sometimes fail to fully collaborate with one another on interrelated community issues.

As this committee continues to move forward in an effort to bring positive change and associated future opportunities within our County, we will continue to provide County GIS mapping services to the established sub-committee workgroups to support these workgroup initiatives.

## **LOCAL ISSUES**

# **Municipal Ordinance Reviews**

## **Damascus Township Zoning Ordinance Amendment**

Damascus Township proposed amendments to their Zoning Ordinance regulating commercial communication devices in 2015. Our office reviewed and provided comments on these amendments in April of 2015. The comments focused mainly on the amendments' conformity with Pennsylvania's Wireless Broadband Collocation Act and a few administrative and editorial details. These amendments were adopted on June 15, 2015.

## **Dreher Township Zoning Amendments**

In 2015, Dreher Township proposed several amendments to their existing zoning ordinance. The proposed changes to the ordinance also included a recodification of the existing and other previously amended sections. Minor changes occurred throughout the ordinance and in addition to changes in the structuring of the Schedule of Development Standards, several important definitions were also added. In regard to natural resources development and processing, the section on Mineral Extraction was amended and a new section on Mineral Processing was added. New regulations were also proposed by the addition of new sections for Explosives/Fireworks Plants and Storage and Mobile Sales Operations. Our reviews on the proposed changes to the Dreher Township Zoning Ordinance consisted of an initial review in June and a second review in September of 2015. The Dreher Township Supervisors adopted the proposed Zoning Ordinance amendments on December 8, 2015.

## **Lehigh Township Subdivision Ordinance Amendment**

Lehigh Township proposed an amendment to their Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance (SALDO) which would simplify the process for lot improvement subdivisions involving the combination of lots that have been previously recorded on a subdivision plan filed in the Register and Records Office. The Township previously had this lot combination procedure in place before their most recent SALDO adoption in 2012.

As required by Section 505(a) of Act 247, the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, our office provided recommendations for the township to consider prior to the required public hearing taking place. Our review centered on the definition of "Subdivision" under Act 247, which is defined as: *"the division or redivision of a lot, tract or parcel of land by any means into two or more lots, tracts, parcels or other divisions of land including changes in existing lot lines"* We also recommended the amendment require the lots be adjoining, under the same current ownership and that the owners affidavit to be signed by the Owner and Supervisors contain the following statement: *"Lot/parcel \_\_\_\_ shall be joined to and become an inseparable part of lot/parcel \_\_\_\_ and cannot be subdivided or sold separately or apart therefrom without prior Township approval. The combination lot shall be identified as Lot \_\_\_\_ R."*



## **Lehigh Township Zoning Ordinance Amendment**

In 2015, Lehigh Township proposed several amendments to their existing zoning ordinance. The proposed changes to the ordinance included changes to various sections, including but not limited to, the Schedule of Uses, Performance Standards and the section containing definitions. Amendments were also proposed for sections regarding Conditional Use procedures, Special Exception procedures and Mineral Processing and Mineral Depots. New sections were proposed for inclusion in the Zoning Ordinance to manage Explosives and Fireworks Plants or Storage Facilities, Power Plants, Slaughterhouses and Mobile Food Service Operations and Mobile Sales Operations. Our initial review on the proposed changes took place in October, with a secondary review taking place in November of 2015. The Lehigh Township Supervisors adopted the proposed Zoning Ordinance amendments on December 1, 2015.

## **Paupack Township Zoning Ordinance Amendment**

Paupack Township looked to amend elements of their Zoning Ordinance related to accessory buildings, non-conforming uses and building setback requirements in 2015. Our office reviewed and commented on this proposal in November of 2015. Due to the limited nature of the amendments, the Planning/GIS Department's review was brief and dealt mainly with definitions. To date, these amendments have not been adopted by the Board of Supervisors.

## **Sterling Township Zoning Ordinance Amendments**

Sterling Township proposed an amendment to their Zoning Ordinance which would create a new Planned Business Park (PBP) District for the Wayne Economic Development Corporation's (WEDCO) Sterling Business and Technology Park located at intersection of SR 191 and SR 196. This new zoning district would cover all the lands of WEDCO consisting of 250+/- acres total. The amendments to their ordinance also listed the allowable principal permitted and accessory uses, conditional uses that would be acted upon by the Township Supervisors and the prohibited uses not allowed within the planned business park. The development standards were also contained within the zoning amendments covering minimum lot size, setback requirements, building height and maximum lot coverage for each lot and the total allowable coverage for the entire park. Our office also prepared a new Township Zoning Map showing this newly proposed PBP district for the Township to officially adopt as part of the Zoning Ordinance amendments. The Township was scheduled to have their required public meeting on these proposed zoning amendments and the revised Township Zoning Map at the beginning of 2016.



# **Wayne County Comprehensive Plan Municipal Comprehensive Plan Consistency Reviews**

## **Cherry Ridge Township Truck Purchase**

Cherry Ridge Township is applying to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) Local Share Grant Program for a grant that will be used to purchase a new truck for the Township. A \$45,000 cash match will be provided by the Township. Cherry Ridge Township has approximately 11 miles of roads to maintain and a new truck will allow for continued municipal maintenance of these roads. A letter was provided to the Township that will support the grant application for this project.

## **Clinton Township Proposed Playground Project**

Clinton Township will be applying to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) for funding that will be used to construct a children's playground on property owned by the Township. Equipment will be purchased along with safety surface material and associated design fees for the playground. This project is consistent with the Wayne County Comprehensive Plan, therefore a letter of support was sent to the Township Supervisors for this grant application.

## **Clinton Township Salt Shed Project**

Clinton Township currently maintains nearly 35 miles of Township roads and is in need of purchasing and installing a new salt shed on Township property. A grant is being sought from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) Local Share Grant Program with a \$6,000 cash match. Seeking out grant money that can be used for community facilities will help to reduce the burden on the local taxpayers. The Wayne County Department of Planning supports this grant application and has supplied a letter to the Township to help with the application process for this project.

## **Dreher Township Park Improvements**

Carlton-Drake Memorial Park located in Dreher Township is in need of multiple improvements including ball field fences, park bench replacements, and solar safety lights with panels to reduce electricity costs and resurfacing of the access road. Dreher Township is applying for grant money from the Department of Community and Economic Development's (DCED) Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program and has requested a letter of support for this project. Continuing to maintain this recreational facility for the residents and visitors of Dreher Township is consistent with the Wayne County Comprehensive Plan and therefore, the Wayne County Planning/GIS Department provided a letter of support for this municipal grant application.

### **Hamlin Heights – Salem Township**

Cobler Realty Advisors, Inc. is applying for Federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTCs) for a new building being constructed behind Wayne Memorial Health Center's new medical facility in Salem Township, Wayne County. This development is consistent with the Wayne County Comprehensive Plan as one of its goals is to encourage more housing projects similar to this that will accommodate elderly tenants. A letter of support was requested and sent to the developer for this housing project.

### **Hideout Community Stormwater Project – Lake Township**

Princeton Hydro on behalf of the Lake Wallenpaupack Watershed Management District has submitted a grant application to the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) for a stormwater management project involving Ariel Creek, a sub-watershed of Roamingwood Lake. This project was found to be consistent with the goals and objectives of both the Lake Region Comprehensive Plan as well as the Wayne County Comprehensive Plan. A letter supporting this project was sent to DCED.

### **Honesdale Borough Stormwater Control Project**

Honesdale Borough requested a letter of support for a grant application through the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) Local Share Grant Program to be used for the second phase of stormwater control along what is locally known as Blake's Creek. Multiple problems along Blake's Creek include erosion, lack of pipe capacity and lack of inlet and swale capacity. Located within a hill section of the Borough, flooding occurs during major rain events creating hazardous conditions and restricting traffic flow. Correction of these stormwater problems is consistent with both the Borough and County Comprehensive plans. A letter of support was provided to Honesdale Borough.

### **Paupack Township Park Improvement Project**

Paupack Township is pursuing upgrades to their recreational park located along the Purdytown Turnpike (Route 590). The park is used by the local residents as well as visitors to Wayne County. Improvements will consist of paving the access road as well as landscaping on both sides of this entrance to the park. A new sign identifying this park to travelers is also being planned. An application for funding for this project is being sought through the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) along with a local cash match. Since this project was found to be consistent with the Lake Region Comprehensive Plan and the Wayne County Comprehensive Plan, a letter supporting this local recreational project was forwarded to the Board of Supervisors.

### **Paupack Township / Lakeville Fire Company Paving Project**

The parking lot of the Lakeville Volunteer Fire Company, which serves the needs of the residents of the lake region area, is in need of paving. Paupack Township is applying for funding through the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) Local Share Grant Program to assist them with this paving project. The Wayne County Department of Planning supports this project as maintaining and upgrading emergency services within the township is consistent with both the Lake Region Comprehensive Plan and the County's Comprehensive Plan. A letter of support was sent to Paupack Township.

### **Preston Township / Northern Wayne Fire Company Paving Project**

Preston Township is requesting support for an application to the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) Local Share Grant Program for funding that will assist in the paving of the Northern Wayne Fire Company parking lot. This volunteer fire company serves the many residents of the northern Wayne County area. The project was found to be consistent with both the North Country Region Comprehensive Plan as well as the Wayne County Comprehensive Plan. A letter supporting this project was sent to the Preston Township Supervisors to be included with the grant application to DCED.

### **South Canaan Township Municipal Building Project**

South Canaan Township is in need of a storage shed for winter material used for road maintenance as well as renovations to an existing garage located on Township property. This garage, once renovated, will house a fire truck used by the Lake Ariel Volunteer Fire Company to serve area residents. South Canaan Township is applying to the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) Local Share Grant Program for funding to assist with this project. The Township will be providing in-kind contributions such as labor, machinery and materials towards these building improvements. These municipal building projects were found to be consistent with the County Comprehensive Plan. A letter of support was sent to South Canaan Township.

### **Sterling Township Park Master Plan**

Sterling Township is applying to the Department of Community and Economic Development for a grant that will aid in the completion of a master plan for the acquisition of the Sterling Recreational Park. A master plan will assist in the Township's goal of maintaining a functional recreational facility for the continued use by the Western Wayne Little League as well as the future development of the property for additional public recreation facilities. The continued development of the Sterling Park is consistent with both the Sterling Township Comprehensive Plan as well as the Wayne County Comprehensive Plan. A letter supporting this grant application to the DCED was sent to the Sterling Township Supervisors.

### **Texas Township Old Willow Avenue Bridge Replacement**

The existing Old Willow Avenue Bridge was constructed in 1920 and has a posted weight limit of three tons. The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation has listed this bridge as structurally deficient and functionally obsolete. The bridge is located within one of the largest retail commercial areas of the County. Average daily traffic at this intersection in 2013 was at 19,171. Texas Township is applying to the Department of Community and Economic Development Multimodal Transportation Fund for financial assistance in replacing this locally owned bridge. The Township has also applied for grant funding through the Department of Community and Economic Development Local Share Program in an effort to replace this bridge. Letters of support under these two separate grant applications were provided to Texas Township for this needed bridge replacement since it was found to be consistent with the Transportation and Circulation Plan of the Central Wayne Regional Comprehensive Plan, which recommends its needed replacement based on the current condition and restricted 3-ton weight limit of this local bridge.

### **Wallenpaupack Area School District Resurfacing of Tennis Courts**

Wallenpaupack Area School District serves the residents of Dreher, Palmyra, Paupack and Texas Township #3 (White Mills area) as well as the Borough of Hawley. Their tennis courts are in need of resurfacing and the school district is applying for a grant from the Department of Community and Economic Development for funding. The tennis courts are used by school students as well as local and seasonal second-home area residents. The Wayne County Comprehensive Plan supports the use of shared recreational facilities outside of school hours. Therefore, a letter supporting this grant application was forwarded to the Wallenpaupack School District for their application.

### **Wayne County Commissioners Stourbridge Building Improvements**

A letter of support was provided to the Wayne County Commissioners in an effort to secure funding through the Department of Community and Economic Development Local Share Grant Program for renovations to the Business Incubator space at the former Stourbridge Elementary School. The proposed project meets the goals and objectives of the Economic Development Plan section of the Wayne County Comprehensive Plan as well as the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Keystone Principles for Growth, Investment and Resource Conservation.

### **WEDCO Southern Wayne Broadband Expansion**

WEDCO is applying to the Department of Community and Economic Development Local Share Program for funding that will be used to expand the broadband infrastructure in the southern Wayne County area as well as within the Sterling Business & Technology Park in Sterling Township. Lack of good employment opportunities was a main concern to area residents surveyed for the Wayne County Comprehensive Plan Update that was conducted during 2010. A proposed fiber build supports WEDCO's business retention and attraction efforts to this area. The Wayne County Planning/GIS Department finds this grant application to be consistent with the economic development goals of the County Comprehensive Plan and has supplied DCED with a letter of support.

### **Wildlands Conservancy Klondike Pond Acquisition**

The Wildlands Conservancy is looking to purchase approximately 250+/- acres of property along the southwestern border of Wayne County. This property adjoins State Game Land 312 in Lehigh and Sterling Townships. A grant application for funding is being pursued through the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. The acquisition of additional property is consistent with the recommendations section of the Wayne County Comprehensive Plan and also with the goals of the Clifton-Lehigh Township Comprehensive Plan. A letter of support was provided to the Wildlands Conservancy to assist in securing this grant.

Please note that requested letters of support provided by our department do not guarantee that either full or partial funding will be awarded to any specific municipal, county or other organization, which have chosen to apply for financial assistance under existing State or Federal grant administered programs.

## The Course in Community Planning

On three consecutive Mondays during September of 2015, the Wayne County Planning Department hosted a course entitled “*The Course in Community Planning*”. It was an in-depth three session course designed for planning commissioners and local elected officials in how to carry out their responsibilities under the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, commonly referred to as Act 247. The course instructors were Peter Wulfhorst, Penn State Extension Economic & Community Development Educator and Carson Helfrich, Community Planning and Management.

Over the three-week course, topics covered included comprehensive planning, multi-municipal planning, plan implementation, the roles and responsibilities of planning commissioners and elected officials and how to develop an effective local planning commission. More specific discussions centered on the municipal “police power”, subdivision and land development ordinances and zoning ordinances.

The Wayne County Commissioners, Wayne County Township Officials Association, Pike County Council of Governments and the Northeast Section of the PA Chapter of the American Planning Association (APA) sponsored the ten-hour course and provided financial assistance.

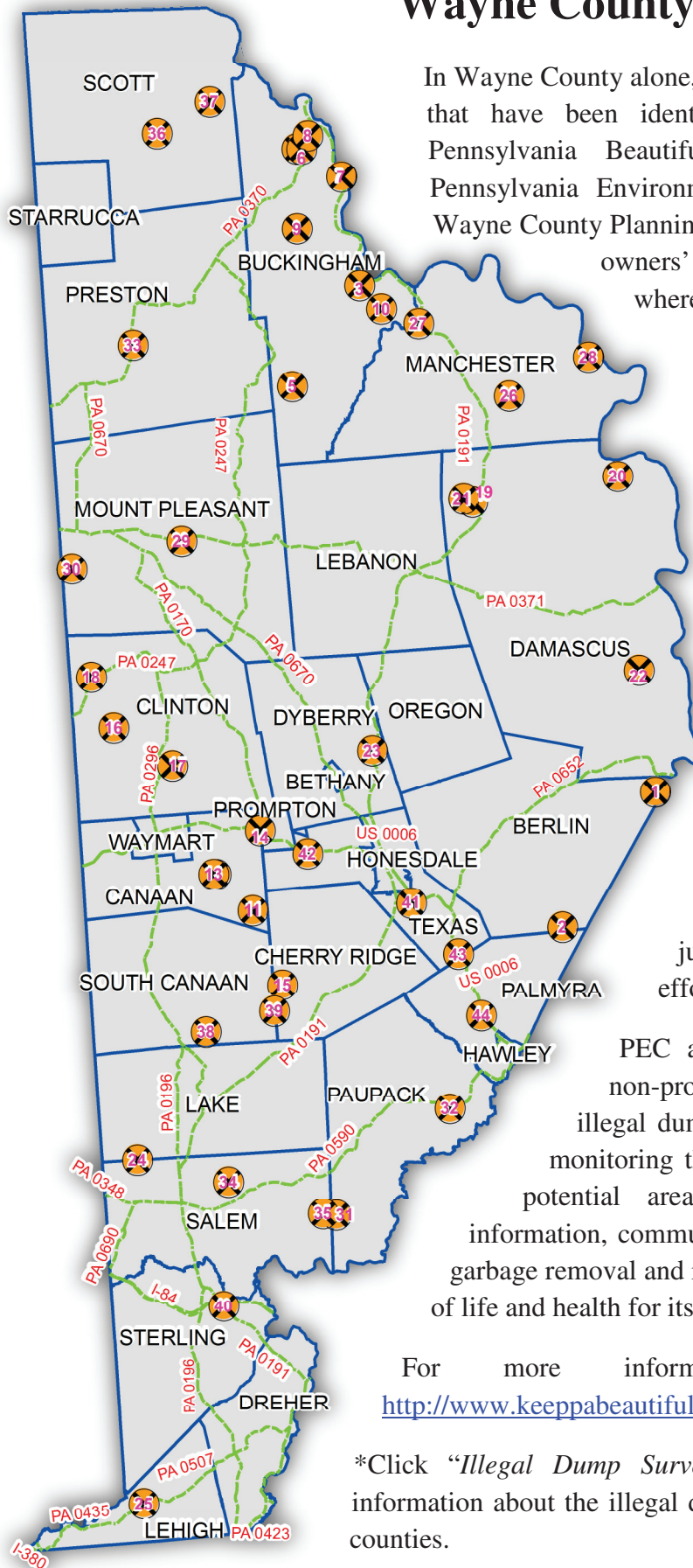
The Wayne County Department of Planning will continue to host courses on various topics related to land use planning, which is one of the educational goals of the County’s Comprehensive Plan. The courses provide an important educational service to both local government officials and members of the public. Each session was a mix of lectures, discussions and hands-on exercises.



*Course in Community Planning – Lackawanna College Lake Region Center*

In the spring of 2016, there will be two separate zoning courses held at the Lackawanna County Center for Public Safety in Jessup, PA. The first will be “The Course in Zoning” starting in late March for three consecutive weeks followed by “The Course in Zoning Administration”, which will begin mid-May and run for another three weeks as well. We encourage municipal officials and their zoning officers to take advantage of these locally held zoning courses to assist them with their local land use decisions and responsibilities.

# Wayne County Illegal Dumpsites



In Wayne County alone, there are approximately 45 illegal dumpsites that have been identified and located according to a Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful 2013 Illegal Dump Survey. The Pennsylvania Environmental Council (PEC) reached out to the Wayne County Planning/GIS Department for support with mapping, owners' names, and addresses for the properties where illegal dumping has been identified.

The map to the left displays a dot symbol where each dumpsite is located within each Municipality. They are fairly dispersed throughout the County. Just over half of the dumpsites are still active and they are usually located in more isolated areas where they are less likely to be discovered. Unfortunately, many of these dumpsites are located near a waterway which could lead to pollutants entering the County's special protection watersheds. The GIS map produced by our office and other information was used at municipal meetings to inform the municipal officials about the dumpsites within their jurisdictions for future planning and clean-up efforts.

PEC and Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful are both non-profit organizations that are seeking to reduce illegal dumping and littering by cleaning up sites and monitoring them for future dumping and reducing other potential areas for illegal dumping. With proper information, community involvement, and multiple facilities for garbage removal and recycling, the County can increase the quality of life and health for its residents.

For more information visit the website at:  
<http://www.keeppabeautiful.org/>

\*Click "Illegal Dump Surveys" tab (left) on the website for more information about the illegal dumpsites in Wayne County as well as other counties.



# STATE ISSUES

# Wayne County Transportation Planning

Wayne County is an independent county working directly with Penn DOT Central Office in Harrisburg and Penn DOT District 4-0 in Dunmore for County-wide transportation planning. Penn DOT's Roadway Projects that were scheduled for the 2015 Construction Season within the County included a total of 85 plus miles of State Route Surface Improvements, which included repaving of the following major highways through private subcontractors. The areas of State Routes that were completed are as follows:

SR 0191 – 6.47 miles (Honesdale south into Cherry Ridge Twp.)

SR 0590– 17.16 miles (Wilsonville to Hollisterville)

SR 0652 – 3.33 miles (southern Damascus Twp.)

SR 0670 – 8.11 miles (Egypt Road to Honesdale Boro.)

SR 4014 – 7.12 miles (Hancock to Scott Center)

Another 43.5 miles paved by Penn DOT's Department Force included:

SR 0423 – Carlton Road (Dreher Twp.)

SR 0670 – Belmont Tpk. (Mt. Pleasant & Preston Twps.)

SR 1025 – Rutledgedale Road (Damascus Twp.)

SR 3002 – Spring Hill Road (Sterling Twp.)

SR 3003 – Peet Road (Sterling Twp.)

SR 3004 – Pond Road (Salem Twp.)

SR 3017 – Lake Henry Road (Lake & Salem Twps.)

SR 3018 – Cortez Road (S. Canaan & Lake Twps.)

SR 3021 – Freighthouse Road (Lake Twp.)

SR 3023 – Fernwood Road (Lake Twp.)

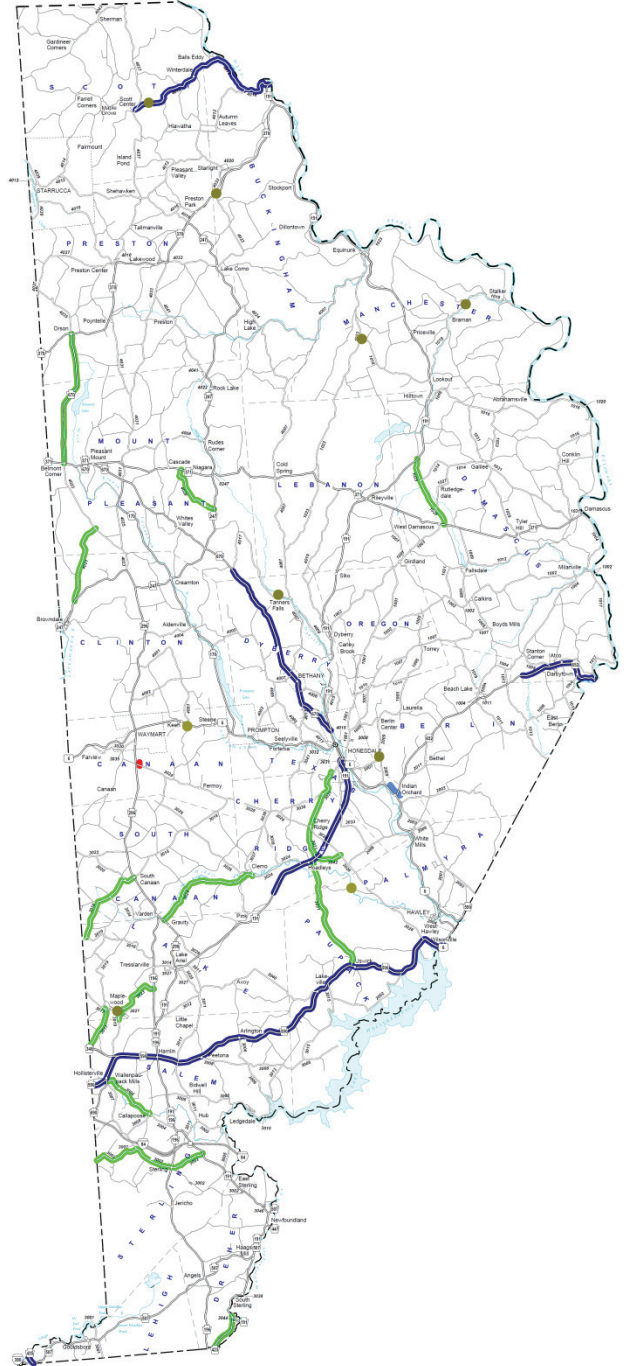
SR 3024 – Old Tannery Road (S. Canaan Twp.)

SR 3031 – Hoadley Road (Cherry Ridge & Paupack Twps.)

SR 3042 – Shuman Road (Cherry Ridge Twp.)

SR 4021 – Pleasant Mt. Dr. (Clinton & Mt Pleasant Twps.)

SR 4029 – Miller Pond Road (Mt. Pleasant Twp.)



As part of the Statewide Public Private Partnership (P3) Rapid Bridge Replacement (RBR) program, there are eight bridges throughout the County that are scheduled for replacement from 2015 through 2017. The first two (2) that were completed in 2015 included:

#162 – SR 4033 Starlight Road (Buckingham Twp.)  
Bridge over Shehawken Creek - COMPLETED

#161 – SR 4014 Winterdale Road (Scott Twp.)  
Bridge over Balls Creek - COMPLETED

The remaining six (6) scheduled for 2016 include:

#159 – SR 2007 Tryon Street (Berlin Twp.)  
Bridge over Holbert Creek – April > June 2016

#158 – SR1018 Braman Road (Manchester Twp.)  
Bridge over Little Equinunk Creek – June > July 2016

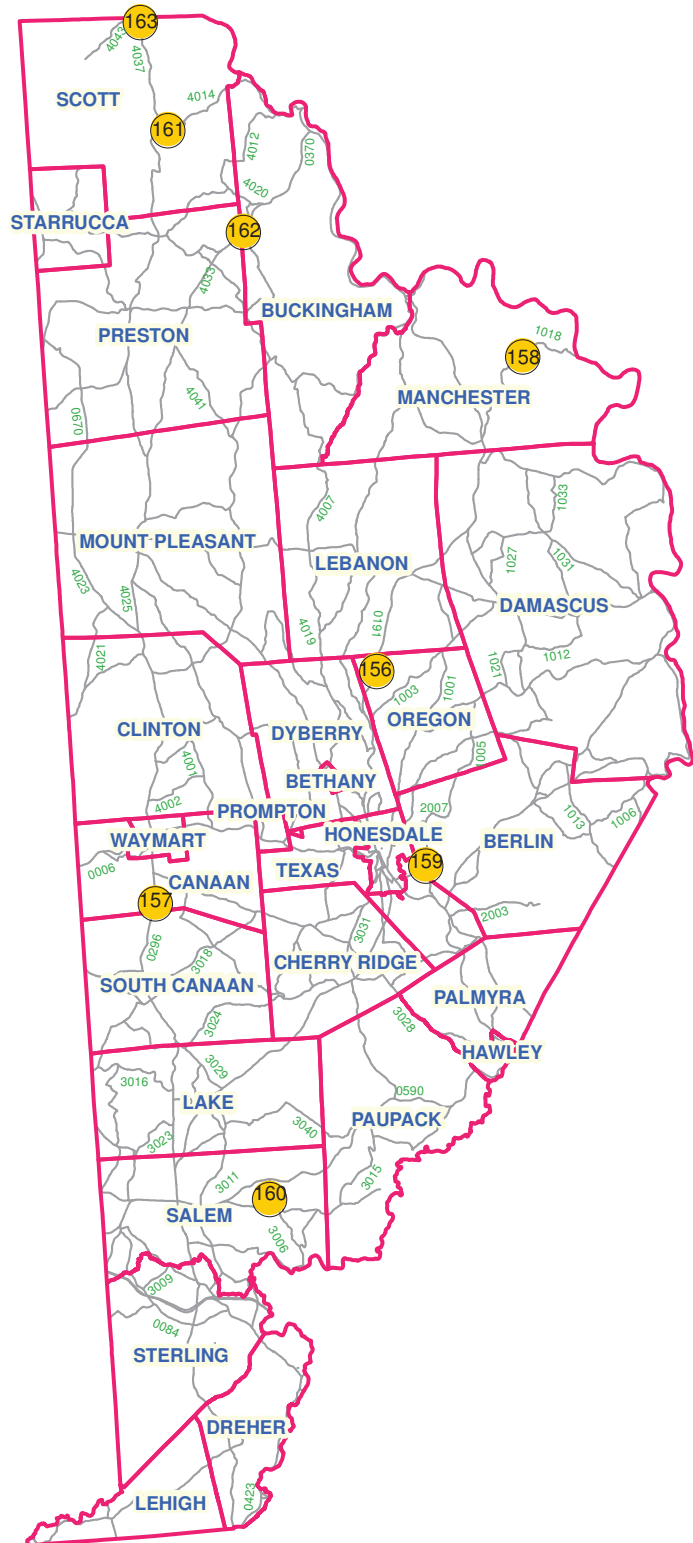
#156 – SR 0191 Hancock Hwy. (Oregon Twp.)  
Bridge over Big Brook Creek – June > Aug. 2016

#157 – SR 296 Easton Tpk. (Canaan Twp.)  
Bridge over branch of Middle Creek – Oct. > Nov. 2016

#160 – SR 3006 Ledgedale Road (Salem Twp.)  
Bridge over Ariel Creek – Aug. > Oct. 2016

#163 – SR 4037 Scott Center Road (Scott Twp.)  
Bridge over Oquaga Creek – Aug. > Oct. 2016

The Rapid Bridge Replacement (RBR) construction schedule is subject to change at any time due to unforeseen circumstances.



Another requirement as an independent county is working directly with Penn DOT District 4-0 in the development of the County's 12-year Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP), which is updated every two years. The 2015-2026 Wayne County 12-year Program approved by the Pennsylvania Transportation Commission is as follows. Some projects may be completed and future schedules revised at the time of this annual report printing. For the most current listing of Penn DOT road and bridge TIP projects, please go to <http://www.penndot.gov/>.

Highway Projects					
Project #	Route	Location	Description	1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , or 3rd Period	Cost
102071	6	Canaan to Texas Twp.	Surface Treatment	2	6,300,000
47625	191	191/196 & T367-Salem	Intersection improvement	1	5,432,000
96818	191	Hancock Hwy.-Buckingham	Restoration - Slope repair	1	702,000
96908	191	Hancock Hwy.-Buckingham	Restoration - Slope repair	1	2,449,400
96904	370	Crosstown Hwy.-Buckingham	Restoration - Slope repair	1	141,000
57868	590	Hamlin Corners-Salem	Intersection improvement	1	1,500,000
96817	652	Beach Lake Hwy.-Damascus	Restoration - Slope repair	1	351,000
102010	6,590,690	Texas, Palmyra, Paupack, Salem	Surface Treatment	1	6,400,000
102085	652,1007,1025	Damascus, Berlin, Oregon	Resurface	2	7,500,000
102066	371, 1031	Lebanon, Damascus	Resurface	1	6,000,000
Total Highway					<b>36,775,400</b>
Bridge Projects					
101099	170	Lackawaxen-Clinton	Restoration	3	1,300,000
85787	191	Manny Run-Dreher	Replacement	1	900,000
89022	191	Dyberry Creek-Honesdale	Restoration	1	1,400,000
101391	191	Trib Wallenpaupack Cr.-Dreher	Restoration	3	1,987,500
68883	247	W Br Dyberry Creek-Mt. Pleasant	Replacement	3	1,750,000
67578	296	Van Auken Creek-Waymart	Replacement	2	1,750,000
10042	371	Delaware River-Damascus	Restoration	1	1,500,000
68891	371	W Br Lackawaxen-Mt Pleasant	Replacement	1	2,500,000
56746	371	E Br Dyberry Creek-Lebanon	Restoration	2	2,587,500
101118	371	Trib to N Br Calkins Cr.-Damascus	Replacement	3	1,888,000
68900	590	Inlet to Finn Swamp-Paupack	Replacement	1	825,000
101791	590	Branch of Ariel Creek-Salem	Replacement	2	1,691,000
83052	652	Delaware River-Damascus	Restoration	1	12,140,000
88469	670	Cramer Creek-Mt. Pleasant	Replacement	1	1,075,000
101390	1001	Carley Brook-Honesdale	Restoration	3	2,087,500
9983	1002	Delaware River-Skinners Falls	Restoration	1	11,300,000
85786	1002	S Br Calkins Creek-Damascus	Restoration	3	3,000,000
68906	1004	Calkins Creek-Damascus	Replacement	2	3,150,000
96963	1018	Delaware River-Manchester	Restoration	1	4,500,000
10046	1020	Delaware River-Damascus	Restoration	2	10,000,000
92892	1023	S Br Equinunk Ck-Manchester	Replacement	1	1,400,000
68921	1023	S Br Equinunk Ck-Manchester	Replacement	1	2,190,000
93944	1031	Beaver Dam Creek-Damascus	Replacement	1	675,000
9833	2008	Carley Brook Brg. 2-Honesdale	Replacement	1	1,800,000
9973	3002	Stevens Creek-Sterling	Replacement	2	1,850,000
89021	3004	W Br Wallenpaupack Cr-Salem	Restoration	1	1,000,000
67587	3018	Trib to Middle Creek-S. Canaan	Replacement	3	2,150,000
67589	3020	Trib to Middle Creek-S. Canaan	Replacement	2	675,000
67591	3026	Trib to Middle Creek-S. Canaan	Replacement	1	200,000
67592	3030	Van Auken Creek-Waymart	Replacement	2	825,000
67593	3034	Middle Creek-Lake	Replacement	3	1,388,000
9974	3046	Spring Run-Dreher	Replacement	1	530,000
9834	4017	Dyberry Creek-Dyberry	Replacement	1	1,200,000
9976	4023	Trib to W Br Lackawaxen-Mt. Pleasant	Replacement	1	470,000
9979	4043	Sherman Creek-Scott	Replacement	2	575,000
9849	T-603	Equinunk Creek-Buckingham	Replacement	1	200,000
9898	T-634	N Br Calkins Creek-Damascus	Replacement	1	800,000
Total Bridge					<b>85,259,500</b>

Source: PA Dept. of Transportation

# Pennsylvania Route 6 Proposed “All American Road”



Route 6 winds 427 miles through 11 counties across Pennsylvania’s northern tier. There are 110 local municipalities in those 11 counties. In Wayne County, Route 6 traverses four boroughs and three townships. Pennsylvania Route 6 is recognized as a driving destination by *National Geographic Traveler* and *Car and Driver* magazines. AAA includes a portion of Route 6 in their list of Scenic Byways. *Harley Davidson* labeled it as one of the best touring routes. There are also endless sites on the internet that identify Pennsylvania Route 6, in whole or part, as a scenic destination for travelers. Combined spending attributable to tourism along the Route 6 Corridor increased by just over 26% from 2005 to 2013, with a more modest 4.1% increase in tourism employment, accordingly to *The Economic Impact of Tourism in Pennsylvania*, January 2015.

With this kind of notoriety and economic impact it is no wonder that there are also other honors bestowed upon Route 6. In 2005 Route 6 was named a Heritage Corridor as part of Pennsylvania’s Heritage Area Program. The Pennsylvania Route 6 Alliance (located in Galeton, PA) is the entity that manages the Heritage Corridor Management Plan.

The Route 6 Alliance announced as its next phase, the proposal of Route 6 being designated as an “All American Road”. The first step in this process is for the 110 municipalities to sign resolutions agreeing to have Route 6 designated as a Pennsylvania Byway. Then a corridor management plan is developed followed by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation submitting an application to the Federal Highway Administration for designation as an “All American Road”.

This federal designation is part of the National Scenic Byways System. While such a designation would certainly bring more recognition to Pennsylvania Route 6, a federal designation would be accomplished under the authority of the Federal Register which brings with it commitments from local communities. Such a designation would require the establishment of the “Corridor” which would include the *right-of-way and the adjacent area that is visible from the highway*. It would also require the development of a “Corridor Management Plan” that specifies the actions, procedures, controls, operational practices and administrative strategies to maintain the scenic byway.

Many elected officials have expressed concern over what would be expected of them as required by the Federal Register. The corridor management plan would not be written at the federal level, it would be written by a regional group of officials from the 110 municipalities that Route 6 traverses. Although these 110 municipalities have Route 6 as something in common, the municipalities along the 427 miles have some very diverse qualities. Depending upon what the majority of the 110 municipal officials establish in the management plan, it may not be palatable



to all who may have signed resolutions to join, thus weakening any previous commitment. The Federal Register defines the “Local Commitment” as the *assurance provided by communities that they will undertake actions, such as zoning and other protective measures to preserve the scenic byway as identified in the corridor management plan.* Additionally, for *All-American Roads*, there must be a demonstration of the extent to which enforcement mechanisms are being implemented by communities along the highway in accordance with the corridor management plan.

In addition, it is also specifically stated in the Federal Register that a Corridor Management Plan must contain, *A schedule and a listing of all agency, group, and individual responsibilities in the implementation of the corridor management plan, and a description of enforcement and review mechanisms, including a schedule for the continuing review of how well those responsibilities are being met.*

Early in 2013, the Alliance mailed packets of information to the local municipalities along Route 6. These packets explained the positive elements of having Route 6 designated as a Byway. It also included a sample resolution for each municipality to consider, sign and return to the Alliance indicating their intent to support the cause and join with other municipalities. The response from the local municipalities has been less than what the Alliance had hoped for. At this time, approximately half of the 110 municipalities across Route 6 have expressed support. Waymart was the only Wayne County municipality to support this designation. Palmyra Township and Prompton Borough both returned postcards indicating no interest in a State “Byway” designation. To date, there have been no responses from Hawley or Honesdale Borough as well as Canaan or Texas Townships.

The general hesitation has centered on a regional organization being introduced in the local decision making process through a corridor management plan crafted by a regional planning organization. Some see it as the assertion that it provides new opportunities to regulate undesirable land uses as being misleading since the regulation of land use is already available through the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code and local municipalities can adopt such regulations on their own without the influence of the other 109 municipalities along Route 6.



During 2015, the Route 6 Alliance contracted with The EADS Group to complete a draft update of the Management Action Plan (MAP), which is required to be completed every ten years. The previous plan was completed in 2004. The update of the MAP is to also include elements of a Corridor Management Plan (CMP). The Wayne County communities of Hawley, Honesdale, Waymart and White Mills have been identified as part of the Delaware & Hudson (D&H) Character Area, which strives to “*recognize and preserve the historic settings, sites and resources that contribute to the visual quality while retaining the buildings, landscapes and settings that tell the story of coal mining and transport.*”

As part of the Alliance infrastructure committee, our office will continue to take part in monthly phone conference meetings to support recreational and tourism sites along the Route 6 corridor.



# Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission

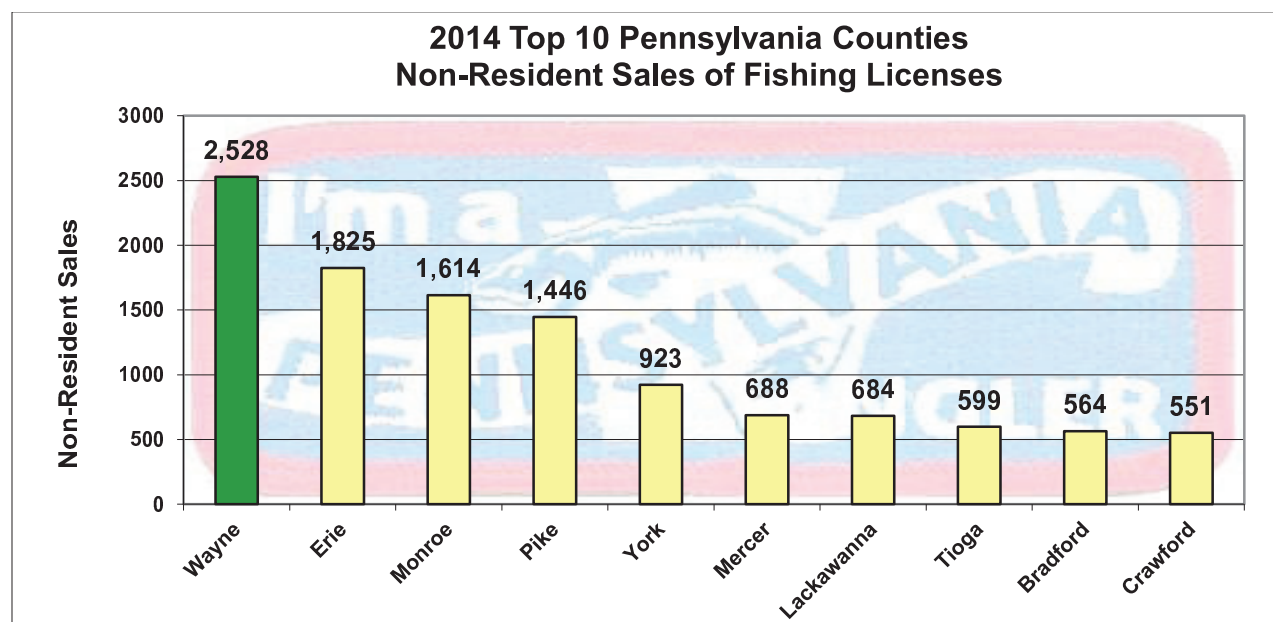
## Miller Pond and White Oak Pond Reconstruction Projects

In October of 2015, a public meeting was held at the Forest City Regional High School concerning the planned total draw down of Miller Pond located in Mount Pleasant Township and White Oak Pond in Clinton Township. The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC), in coordination with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), drained both ponds in November due to dam stability concerns and ultimately public safety for the residents, businesses and infrastructure downstream. Both earthen dams were built by the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company in the early-mid 1800's and were acquired by the PFBC in 1917. As responsible dam owners, the PFBC must do what is necessary to ensure public safety. Both bodies of water drain into Prompton Lake, which is where all fish salvage was relocated to as part of the scheduled draw down procedures. The dams are scheduled to be replaced using Act 89 funding through the motorboat fuel Oil Company Franchise Tax revenues. A six-year design and construction schedule is anticipated with a reopening by the end of 2021.

As a follow-up to the anticipated timeline concerning the reconstruction of these two dams, the Wayne County Planning Commission sent letters to PFBC Executive Director John A. Arway, Representatives Sandra Major and Michael Peifer, and State Senator Lisa Baker expressing their disappointment with the length of time these public recreational facilities would be closed and the potential resulting negative effect on annual fishing license sales in Wayne County. The letter provided a summary of the PFBC 2014 fishing license sales throughout the Commonwealth's 67 counties showing that:

- *Wayne County continues to rank 1<sup>st</sup> in the number of non-resident fishing license sales at 2,528 in 2014, accounting for nearly 10% of the PFBC total non-resident sales in the Commonwealth.*
- *A total of 5,126 non-resident/tourist licenses, equaling 38.8% of total County sales, were issued in our County last year, ranking 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Commonwealth only to western Erie County.*
- *A total of 8,086 resident fishing licenses were issued in Wayne County in 2014, ranking the County 3<sup>rd</sup> at 15.3% of our County's total population. This demonstrates the local residents' expectation of these recreational facilities and the importance of continued access to these boating and fishing sites.*

The following bar graph of 2014 County non-resident sales was also provided as an attachment:



Below are two photos of the Miller Pond drawdown which took place in November of 2015:



*Miller Pond Post Drawdown.*



# Tennessee Gas Pipeline Orion Project

Another segment of the Tennessee Gas Pipeline that was constructed in 1955 is being planned. The expansion project proposes to construct approximately 12.9 miles of new 36-inch diameter pipeline looping from Berlin Township in Wayne County to Lackawaxen Township in Pike County, Pennsylvania, located parallel to Tennessee's existing 300 Line. The loop portion that will take place in Wayne County is segment 322. Segment 322, covering 8.23 miles will begin at the border of Texas Township and pass through Berlin Township and northern Palmyra Township, which will traverse approximately 4.3 miles in eastern Wayne County. Tennessee Gas is planning to start construction in 2017 with an estimated completion in June of 2018.

The following information is from the El Paso Company - Tennessee Gas Pipeline web site <http://www.elpaso.com/tgp300lineexpansion/default.shtm>. Information can also be obtained by calling 1-866-683-5587. *"Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company ("Tennessee"), a subsidiary of El Paso Corporation, plans to expand its 300 Line to transport new diversified natural gas supplies, including newly accessed Appalachian and Marcellus shale gas to serve the growing demand for interstate natural gas transmission service in the northeastern United States. The 300 Line Expansion Project ("Project") involves the installation of seven looping segments in Pennsylvania and New Jersey totaling approximately 128 miles of 30-inch pipeline, and the addition of approximately 52,000 horsepower ("HP") following the installation of two new compressor stations and upgrades at seven existing compressor stations."* The map below is from the Tennessee Gas Pipeline web site. A series of more detailed maps can be viewed at the web site.

